OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY
MANAGED BY UT-BATTELLE FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Economic Benefits of the Spallation Neutron Source

The Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) will be the world's foremost neutron-scattering facility, and when coupled with the High Flux Isotope Reactor, will make Oak Ridge a center for neutron science. In addition to the expected scientific benefits of the SNS, the facility is having, and will continue to have, a positive effect on the local economy. SNS is being built on Chestnut Ridge, an 80-acre site at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and this one-of-a-kind facility is bringing jobs and money to the East Tennessee area. SNS is expected to host 1,000 to 2,000 visiting scientists each year. These visits could range from several days to a week. Work at SNS is likely to generate new business in chemicals, metals, plastics, pharmaceuticals, and instrument development.

Construction

Overall, the SNS is about 45% complete. The front-end, klystron, and linac tunnel foundations are complete, and waterproofing has begun. Concrete for the proton accumulator ring is being poured. The concrete for the floor of the Target Building is completed, and the basement walls are going up.

Project structures call for ~80,000 cubic yards of concrete, equivalent to a sidewalk three feet wide from Knoxville to Nashville–or the amount of concrete needed to build TVA's Fort Loudon Dam.

The SNS water tower is visible from the air when coming into Knoxville's airport from the northwest.

The 1.4 million cubic yards of earth moved would fill the University of Tennessee's Neyland Stadium to above the press box.

Safety

SNS has maintained an outstanding safety performance, better than previous U.S. Department of Energy and industry construction experience. Through the end of June 2002, more than 800,000 hours had been worked on the site with no lost time injuries. The project has not received any environmental violations or fines.

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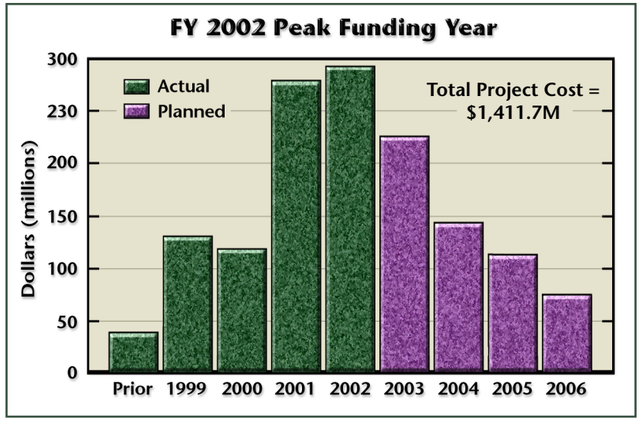
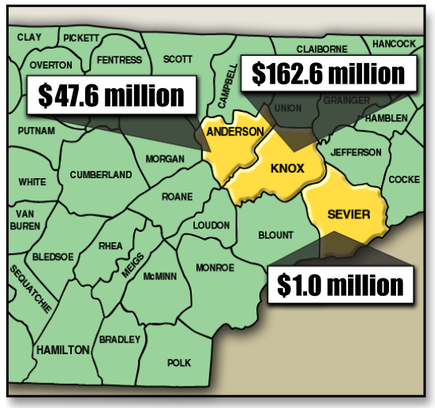
Budget

The six-year budget for the completion of SNS totals $1.4 billion. To date, about 65% of that amount has been allocated. Congress approved full fiscal year (FY) 2002 funding of $291 million, which is the peak annual funding for the project. The funding request for FY 2003 will be $225 million. At this funding rate, construction will be about 60% complete at the end of FY 2003. The estimated annual operating budget for FY 2007 is about $150 million.





Procurement

Major procurements during the past year include general construction; power supplies for the accelerator, ring, and remaining radio-frequency systems; and the target core vessel and shielding.

Of the $400.1 million in contracts awarded on the SNS project through July 2002, about $219 million were awarded to East Tennessee companies. Many contracts involve construction work, such as pouring concrete, grading roads, and installing electrical systems.

Workforce

Currently, almost 700 people are working on the SNS, including staff at all six partner labs. When completed, about 400 permanent staff will be employed at SNS.